however, no proposal to effect changes in the dresses of our Jawans from a strategic point of view.

Detection of North Korean ship carrying arms and ammunition

772. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a North Korean ship carrying arms and ammunition was recently noticed by the Naval Intelligence while heading towards India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the ship had unloaded its arms on any Indian port and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rashtriya Rifles Battalions

773. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Rashtriya Rifles Battalions raised by the Indian Army during the last two years to meet the special counter insurgency operations in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) what was the original number of battalions approved by Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Six battalions of Rashtriya Rifles (RR) were raised by the Indian Army in the last two years.

(b) The Government has issued sanction for raising of 57 RR battalions, so far.

Flying of US F-16s in joint exercise with India

774. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Air Force will fly its F-16 planes for the first time in India in a joint exercise;

(b) if so, the details of number of flights which participated in the exercise;

(c) what is the aim of the joint exercises;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereupon;